



DEPARTMENT OF  
**ECOLOGY**  
State of Washington

SUPPLEMENTAL DRAFT  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

**Yakima River Basin**  
**Water Storage Feasibility Study**

DECEMBER 2008  
Washington State Department of Ecology  
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# Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement Yakima River Basin Water Storage Feasibility Study

This report is available on the Department of Ecology Web site at:  
[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/cwp/cr\\_yak\\_storage.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/cwp/cr_yak_storage.html)

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STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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December 10, 2008

Dear interested parties:

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has prepared and issued this Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) pursuant to the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) (Chapter 43.21C RCW) and the SEPA Rules (Chapter 197-11 WAC). This Supplemental Draft EIS evaluates impacts associated with an Integrated Water Resource Alternative that incorporates a variety of elements that could address multiple facets of water resource problems in the Yakima River basin. This document is a supplement to the January 2008 Yakima River Basin Water Storage Feasibility Study Draft Planning Report/EIS that was a joint National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)/SEPA document prepared by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and Ecology. Ecology developed the Integrated Water Resource Management Alternative in response to comments on the January 2008 Draft Planning Report/EIS that the document had not considered a sufficiently broad range of alternatives.

After comments were received on the document, Ecology consulted with Reclamation on whether a broader range of alternatives should be evaluated. Reclamation concluded that its congressional authorization precluded it from expanding its analysis under NEPA. Therefore, Ecology decided to separate from the joint NEPA/SEPA process and has prepared this Supplemental Draft EIS as a SEPA document. Reclamation will issue its separate NEPA Final Planning Report/EIS on December 19, 2008. Ecology plans to issue its SEPA Final EIS in March 2009. Ecology and Reclamation anticipate working jointly to identify ways to implement and fund the alternatives identified as feasible in the NEPA and SEPA processes.

As SEPA Responsible Official, I welcome your comments. Comments on the Supplemental Draft EIS may be submitted to me in writing at the following address:

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Please include the following text in the subject line: Yakima Supplemental Draft

The public comment period is from December 10, 2008 to January 16, 2009. Comments must be received or postmarked by **January 16, 2009 at 5 pm PDT**.

I look forward to your input regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Derek I. Sandison  
SEPA Responsible Official



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## **ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

AID	Ahtanum Irrigation District
ATVs	all-terrain vehicles
BCAA	Benton County Air Authority
BMPs	best management practices
BPA	Bonneville Power Administration
C	Celsius
CBA	cost/benefit analysis
CBFWP	Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Program
CBP	Columbia Basin Project
CBSP	Columbia Basin System Planning
CELP	Center for Environmental Law and Policy
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
cfs	cubic feet per second
CHU	Critical Habitat Unit
CRMP	Cultural Resources Management Plan
CTED	Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development
CY	cubic yards
DAHP	Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
DEIS	Draft Environmental Impact Statement
District	Yakima County Flood Control Zone District
DO	dissolved oxygen
DPS	distinct population segment
EA	Environmental Assessment
Ecology	Washington State Department of Ecology
EES	Economic and Engineering Services, Inc.
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

ESA	Endangered Species Act
ET	evapotranspiration
F	Fahrenheit
FCRPS	Federal Columbia River Power System
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
FHA	Federal Highway Administration
gpm	gallons per minute
HB	House Bill
GIS	Geographic Information System
HPA	hydraulic project approval
hwy	highway
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
KAF	thousand acre-feet
KCCD	Kittitas County Conservation District
KID	Kennewick Irrigation District
KRD	Kittitas Reclamation District
LWD	large woody debris
mg/L	milligrams per liter
Mgd	million gallons per day
mi	miles
msl	mean sea level
MW	Megawatts
MW-hrs	Megawatt-hours
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NPCC	Northwest Power and Conservation Council
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places

NTU	nephelometric turbidity units
NWI	National Wetland Inventory
OHWM	ordinary high water mark
PCBs	Polychlorinated biphenyl
PHS	Priority Habitats and Species
PIA	Practically Irrigable Acreage
PIT	Passive Integrated Transponder
Plum Creek	Plum Creek Timber Company
PM10	particulate matter 10 microns or less
ppm	parts per million
RASP	Regional Assessment of Supplementation Project
RCW	Revised Code of Washington
Reclamation	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
RM	River Mile
SASSI	Salmon and Steelhead Stock Inventory
SEPA	State Environmental Policy Act
SMA	Shoreline Management Act
SOAC	System Operations Advisory Committee
SRFB	Salmon Recovery Funding Board
Storage Study	Yakima River Basin Water Storage Feasibility Study
SWE	Snow Water Equivalent
TCPs	traditional cultural properties
TDG	total dissolved gas
TDS	total dissolved solids
TMDL	total maximum daily load
TMT	Technical Management Team
Tri-County	Tri-County Water Resource Agency
TWSA	Total Water Supply Available
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USFS	U.S. Forest Service

USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
VQO	Visual Quality Objective
WAC	Washington Administrative Code
WDFW	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
WEC	Washington Environmental Council
WIP	Wapato Irrigation Project
WRATS	Ecology Water Rights Application Tracking System
WRIA	Water Resource Inventory Area
WSDOT	Washington State Department of Transportation
YBFWRB	Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board
YKFP	Yakima/Klickitat Fisheries Project
YRBWEP	Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project
YSPB	Yakima Subbasin Planning Board
YSS	Yakima Subbasin Summary
YTAHP	Yakima Tributary Access and Habitat Program